

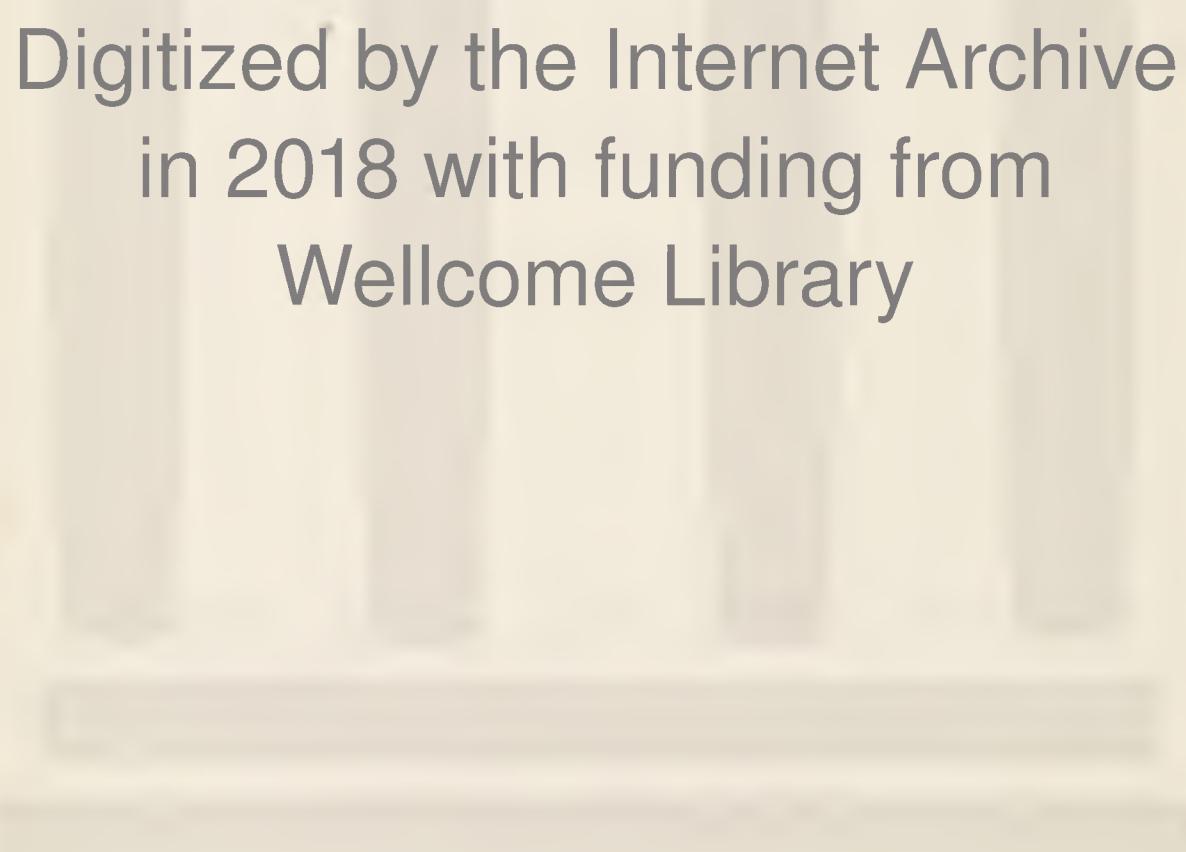
COUNTY BOROUGH OF
STOKE-ON-TRENT

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
1917

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County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*To the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors of the
County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the following Report for the year 1917.

The estimated population at the middle of the year was 239,794. The civil population alone at the same date was estimated at 215,116. The former figure is made use of in calculating the Birth Rate and the latter for the Death Rate.

The Birth Rate was 20.8, this is the lowest rate ever recorded in the County Borough; in 1906 the rate was 35.2, in 1914 31.6, in 1915 26.9, and in 1916 23.9. The immediate relation of the war to the low rate is appreciated.

The Death Rate was 16.1, the rate for the 96 large towns was 14.6, or 1.5 lower than that for the County Borough. The rate, 16.1, is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough with the exception of 1912, when it was 15.9. It must, however, be borne in mind that the rate is estimated on the civil population only, all soldiers being excluded, and as these are necessarily the most healthy adults the rate cannot be really compared with that of 1912.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 116 per thousand births, or 10 lower than 1916, in which year the rate was the lowest ever recorded to that time. The next lowest was 128 in 1912. In the 96 large towns of England and Wales the Infantile Mortality Rate for 1917 was 104.

The County Borough for the first time is not among the four or five towns with highest Infantile Mortality Rates, but is in about the twentieth place in the list of large towns. The immediate cause of the low rate was the almost complete absence of summer diarrhoea.

The work of the Health Department is still curtailed on account of the war, and reduction of staff. I have pleasure in again acknowledging the ready and efficient help given by the Staff of the Department during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. PETGRAVE JOHNSON.

Public Health Department,
Stoke-on-Trent,
August, 1918.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the year ending December 31st, 1917.

Population.

In calculating the population of a district it is usually assumed that the yearly increase has continued to be uniform and at the same rate as in the preceding intercensal period. On this assumption the estimated population of the County Borough at the middle of 1914 was 241,430, the population of the districts being: Burslem, 42,518; Fenton, 26,641; Hanley, 67,622; Longton, 38,030; Stoke, 38,298; Tunstall, 28,319.

The Census of 1911 showed that the population of the County Borough was 234,534, and that the rate of increase of the previous intercensal period has not been maintained.

The populations at the Census periods and the estimated population at the middle of 1914 and 1917 were as follows:—

CENSUS	1901	1911	Estimated to middle of 1914	Estimated to middle of 1917 (for birth rate)	Estimated to middle of 1917 (civil population only)
BURSLEM...	38,766	41,566	42,518	42,230	37,876
FENTON ...	22,738	25,626	26,641	26,458	23,738
HANLEY ...	62,226	66,255	67,622	67,164	60,250
LONGTON ..	35,815	37,479	38,030	37,775	33,902
STOKE ...	30,458	36,218	38,298	38,041	34,127
TUNSTALL	24,709	27,390	28,319	28,126	25,223
TOTALS ...	214,712	234,534	241,430	239,794	215,116

The estimated decrease in the civil population in 1917 as compared to 1916 is 4,639.

The figure 215,116 is supplied by the Registrar General. The great decrease in the estimate of population for 1917 is due to the fact that this is an estimate of the civil population only, all soldiers

being excluded. Allowance has also been made for migration of population as a result of the war, the information in the National Register has been utilised for this purpose.

As suggested by the Registrar General the figure 239,794 has been used in this respect for the calculating of the birth rate.

The population estimated in the usual way from the ascertained numbers at the Census of 1901 and 1911 would have been 247,875.

The increase of population in 1901 over 1891 was 15 per cent., and in 1911 over 1901, 9 per cent.

The distribution of the population over the whole area at the time of the 1901 Census averaged 18.6 persons per acre, and during the year 1911, 21.0 persons per acre, and in 1917 19.0 persons per acre (civil population).

During the year 1917 3 new dwelling houses were built in the County Borough. In 1916 the number was 20, in 1915 the number was 33, in 1914 the number was 90, in 1913 the number was 173, in 1912 the number was 158, in 1911 the number was 190, and in 1910 the number was 322. The figures show a large decline in number of dwelling houses being built from year to year. There is no likelihood of any increased building operations at the present time.

Inhabited Houses.

At the time of the Census in 1901 there were in the County Borough 41,028 inhabited houses, and at the Census of 1911 there were 46,906 inhabited houses. The proportion of population to houses was, at the Census of 1901, 5.2 persons per house, and in 1911, 5.0 persons per house. If the civil population alone be taken there is in all probability a decided fall in the number of persons in each house though the actual number of separate families may not have decreased.

Rateable Value.

The rateable value of the Borough for the purposes of the Poor and Borough Rates in 1917 was—

£850,605.

The assessable value of the General District Rate—

£826,475.

The rateable value of the Borough is diminishing.

The total rates levied in the Borough for all purposes during the year 1917 were—

Burslem	...	...	11/0½ in the £
Fenton	...	...	9/2 "
Hanley	...	...	11/11½ "
Longton	...	...	11/- "
Stoke	...	...	10/8½ "
Tunstall	...	...	10/4½ "

Births.

There were 4,991 births registered in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent in 1917, giving a birth rate of 20·8 per 1,000. This rate is calculated in accordance with the suggestions laid down by the Registrar General.

The rate for the 96 great towns of England and Wales was 18·1 per 1,000.

There is a steady decline in the birth rate in the County Borough, in 1906 it was 35·2, 1907—33·5, 1908—34·5, 1909—33·1, 1910—33·5, 1911—31·3, 1912—31·2, 1913—31·9, 1914—31·6, 1915—26·9, 1916—23·9, 1917—20·8.

In 1876 the birth rate in this country attained the highest point on record, viz.:—36·3 per 1,000 living. Since that date the rate has, with few exceptions, fallen year by year.

The ratio of births of males to births of females during the year was 1,034 to 1,000. For the year 1916 the ratio was 1,055 males to 1,000 females, 1915, 1,007 to 1,000, 1914, 1,018 to 1,000, 1913, 1,018 to 1,000, and for the year 1912, 1,067 to 1,000. In 1911 it was 1,003 to 1,000. In the years 1865—1916 the ratio in England and Wales has varied from 1,032 per 1,000 to 1,054 per 1,000.

Of the 4,991 children born, 2,538 were males, and 2,453 were females. The number of births and birth rates for the various areas were as follows:—

Burslem	...	872	birth rate	20·6	per 1,000
Fenton	...	566	"	21·3	
Hanley	...	1,406	"	20·9	
Longton	...	820	"	21·7	
Stoke	...	676	"	17·7	
Tunstall	...	651	"	23·1	

The birth rate was highest in Tunstall and lowest in Stoke.

The natural increase of population, that is, excess of births over deaths, was 1,436. The previous year it was 2,030, a difference of 594 lives. This is accounted for by the fact that the number of births registered was 737 less than in 1916, while the number of deaths was only 137 less.

Illegitimate Births.

Of the total births 270 or 5·4 per cent. were illegitimate. The rate for 1916 was 4·4. The percentage of illegitimate births in England and Wales is 4·80 for the year 1916. The Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 of population was 1·12 in Stoke-on-Trent as compared with 1·03 in the 96 large towns for the year 1916.

Still Births.

The Superintendents of the Cemeteries report that the bodies of 210 still-born children were buried during the year:—

Burslem	...	...	...	...	48
Fenton	...	...	...	...	21
Hanley	...	...	...	...	64
Longton	...	...	...	...	19
Stoke	...	...	...	...	36
Tunstall	...	...	...	...	21
Stoke Workhouse	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					210

Under the Notification of Births Act, which was brought into force in the County Borough under the Federation Act, all still births must be notified to the Medical Officer of Health. 213 were notified during the year under the Act, and of these 77 were attended by midwives, and 136 by medical men.

A list of the still births buried at the Cemeteries are now obtained weekly from the Registrars at the Cemeteries for comparison with the notifications under the Notification of Births Act.

Taking the number of still births that occurred in 1917 as 210 it is equal to 4·0 of the total births. In 1916 270 still births, equal to 4·7 per cent.

TABLE I.

Being Table I. of the Local Government Board.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1917 and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS		Total Deaths registered in the district		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the district	
		Un-corrected Number	Nett Number	of Non-residents not registered in the District		of Residents not registered in the District	At all ages		
				Number	Rate		Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	
1911	235,069	7,374	7,367	31.3	4,637	19.7	112	161	1,495
1912	237,159	7,403	7,399	31.2	3,747	15.7	135	170	947
1913	239,284	7,655	7,643	31.9	4,531	18.5	160	190	1,295
1914	241,430	7,647	7,640	31.6	4,213	17.4	162	189	1,101
1915	225,405	6,506	6,494	26.9	4,081	18.1	151	224	955
1916	219,755	5,731	5,728	23.9	3,620	16.4	170	242	725
1917	215,116	4,992	4,991	20.8	3,473	16.1	149	231	579

Area of District in
 acres (land and inland water) 11,154.

Total population at all ages—234,534
 Number of inhabited houses—46,906
 Average number of persons per house—5.0

At Census 1911
 (of Census Vol. V.)

TABLE 2.

Showing the number of Births, Birth Rate, number of Deaths, Death Rate, and Infantile Mortality Rate in each of the 26 Wards.

WARD	No. of Births notified	Birth Rate	No. of Deaths registered	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1	222	21.2	133	14.2	121
2	231	23.8	175	20.1	168
3	177	22.1	105	14.6	67
4	161	19.2	150	20.0	130
5	142	17.5	101	13.9	112
6	222	24.2	169	20.6	144
7	175	20.4	164	21.3	182
8	163	20.0	131	17.9	128
9	241	21.0	188	18.2	137
10	214	21.6	126	14.2	103
11	235	22.4	187	20.0	111
12	171	19.9	137	17.8	152
13	178	19.8	126	15.7	112
14	121	14.1	101	13.1	58
15	186	19.8	112	13.3	91
16	186	18.5	114	12.6	69
17	161	17.2	98	11.6	86
18	175	17.2	139	15.2	74
19	179	23.0	119	17.0	139
20	183	20.0	124	15.1	131
21	147	17.1	114	14.8	88
22	196	20.5	116	13.5	91
23	212	23.3	179	21.9	109
24	264	18.1	188	20.1	151
25	169	18.1	150	17.9	148
26	171	19.0	109	13.5	111
Whole Boro.	4,882	20.8	3,599	16.5	116

TABLE 3.

Showing the Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Infantile Mortality Rate for the past seventeen years.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1900	39.1	25.3	207
1901	35.1	20.9	208
1902	36.6	19.6	173
1903	34.6	18.2	179
1904	35.9	19.8	195
1905	33.6	19.8	191
1906	33.9	18.4	175
1907	33.5	19.0	162
1908	34.5	18.5	171
1909	33.1	19.4	163
1910	32.5	17.1	149
1911	31.3	19.6	203
1912	31.2	15.9	128
1913	31.9	18.7	169
1914	31.6	17.4	144
1915	26.9	18.4	147
1916	23.9	16.8	126
1917	20.8	16.5	116

Area, Population, etc.

Census 1911	Area of district in acres	...	...	11,154
	Total population at all ages	...	...	234,534
	Number of inhabited houses	...	...	46,331
	Average number of persons per house...			5.0

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in the County Borough during the year 1917 was 3,473. This gives a death rate of 16.1 per 1,000 of the population. Of the total deaths 627 occurred in public institutions in the district. If the deaths of non-residents which occurred in the district be excluded, also the deaths of all soldiers, and the deaths of residents which occurred beyond the district be included, the nett deaths belonging to the district is 3,555 (1,842 males and 1,713 females), and the death rate 16.5 per 1,000.

The death rate for the 96 great towns of England and Wales was 14.6 per 1,000.

The figure 16.5 is the crude death rate for the County Borough, and 14.6 is the crude rate for the 96 large towns. The Registrar General has drawn attention to the fact that if the population of Stoke-on-Trent were constituted in relation to age and sex like most of England and Wales in 1911, the figure 16.8 must be multiplied by 1.0664 to arrive at the corrected death rate, viz.: 17.6 compared to 14.5, the corrected death rate for the 96 large towns.

The death rate of 16.5 per 1,000 for 1917 was 0.3 per 1,000 lower than that of 1916.

If the death rate in Stoke-on-Trent had been no higher than the rate for the 96 great towns of England and Wales it would have meant 408 fewer deaths in the Borough.

The death rate for the 96 great towns of England and Wales was 0.2 higher in 1917 than 1916.

The birth rate is lowest in the Stoke-upon-Trent District and highest in the Tunstall District, while the death rate is lowest in Stoke-upon-Trent, and highest in Burslem.

The number of deaths, and the death rates, in each of the six districts of the County Borough were as follows:—

		No. of Deaths.		Death Rate.
Burslem	...	715	...	18.8
Fenton	...	359	...	15.1
Hanley	...	977	...	16.2
Longton	...	626	...	18.4
Stoke	...	465	...	13.6
Tunstall	...	413	...	16.3

Principal Causes of Death.

		1917		1916
Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases	455	...	449	
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth...	249	...	304	
Bronchitis	444	...	475	
Pneumonia	361	...	270	
Organic Heart Disease	284	...	295	
Cancer	232	...	190	
Violence	99	...	114	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis...	67	...	129	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease...	98	...	105	

Deaths from Principal Zymotic Diseases.

					1917	1916
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	..	...	...	4	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	66	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	14	...
Whooping Cough	..	...	...	...	87	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	47	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	67	...
					129	

The death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases was 1.17 per 1,000 of the population compared with 0.93 in the 96 great towns of England and Wales, and compared to 1.9 per 1,000 for the County Borough in 1916. The Diarrhoea death rate accounted for 0.31 per 1,000 compared to 0.58 in 1916.

Of the 3,555 deaths in the County Borough, 55 or 1.5 per cent. were not certified either by a registered medical practitioner or by a coroner. In the 96 large towns the percentage of uncertified deaths was only 0.9.

The following table shows the death rate from the principal Zymotic Diseases compared with the death rates of the 96 great towns:—

		Stoke-on-Trent	96 Large Towns	
		1917	1917	1917
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	...	0.19	...	0.32
Measles	...	0.21	...	0.30
Diphtheria	..	0.30	...	0.13
Scarlet Fever	...	0.06	...	0.02
Whooping Cough	...	0.40	...	0.13
Enteric Fever	...	0.01	...	0.03

TABLE 4.

Being Table III. of the Local Government Board.

Causes of, and Ages at death during the year 1917.

Causes of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of 'Residents' whether occurring within or without the district.												Total deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the district				
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Burslem	Fenton	Hanley	Longton	Stoke	Tunstall		
All causes	3500	555	202	249	213	174	437	861	809	698	350	964	618	458	412	627	
Certified	55	24	3	1	2	1	3	11	10	17	9	13	8	7	1	..	
Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	4	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	1
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	47	6	12	23	5	1	..	..	..	5	9	4	25	4	..	..
German Measles	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Scarlet Fever	14	..	1	5	8	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	1	1	6	..
Whooping Cough	87	30	16	37	4	..	..	..	..	22	12	25	15	12	1	3
Diphtheria and Croup	66	3	5	27	31	..	..	..	..	17	15	17	2	7	8	1
Influenza	57	1	..	..	1	3	15	15	22	8	5	14	15	6	9	2
Erysipelas	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	330	1	5	8	24	64	133	91	4	88	32	91	49	40	30	44	
Tuberculous Meningitis	43	4	10	12	14	3	..	..	..	11	4	15	6	4	3	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases	82	9	5	11	18	15	12	8	4	17	10	23	13	7	12	20	
Cancer, malignant disease	232	1	..	..	..	1	27	134	69	46	17	63	50	40	16	57
Rheumatic Fever	12	..	..	..	4	1	3	3	1	2	4	2	1	1	2	..
Meningitis	42	12	9	3	11	2	4	1	..	6	6	12	6	4	8	5	
Organic Heart Disease	284	..	..	1	10	9	48	127	89	59	18	79	44	54	30	45
Bronchitis	444	70	30	18	4	4	20	132	166	64	38	120	100	52	70	60	
Pneumonia (all forms)	361	65	65	55	27	17	34	65	33	97	29	103	44	56	32	26	
Other diseases of the Respiratory Organs	64	2	4	8	1	4	6	18	21	17	2	14	22	6	3	2	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	67	29	13	6	2	1	2	6	8	10	6	17	14	12	8	5	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	10	..	..	1	2	4	2	1	..	..	3	7	..	..	..	12
Cirrhosis of Liver	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	3	1	..	3	3	1	1	1
Alcoholism	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	1
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	98	1	..	4	3	2	15	46	27	24	5	22	18	14	15	24	
Puerperal Fever	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	16	..	..	..	..	1	15	..	..	5	3	5	1	2	..	1
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth	249	243	1	3	2	..	..	..	..	49	29	68	49	25	29	13
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	99	9	2	13	19	17	17	14	8	21	14	22	13	10	19	56	
Suicide	8	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	1	2	1	3	..	..	2	2
Other Defined Diseases	812	92	22	15	24	23	75	199	362	130	97	248	131	99	107	235	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	8	1	4	..	1	..	1	..	1	3	2	1	2	..	..	3
Totals	..	3555	579	205	250	215	1	440	872	819	715	359	977	626	465	413	627

Sub-Entries included in
above figures :—

TABLE 5.
Being Table II. of the Local Government Board.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1917.

Notifiable Disease	At all Ages	Number of Cases Notified										Total Cases notified in each Locality of the District										
		At Ages—Years					Total Cases removed to Hospital					Total Cases removed to Hospital					Total Cases removed to Hospital					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	Burstablem	Hanley	Longton	Stoke	Winsall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	622	4	165	370	55	25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	115	1	7	7	9	36	43	12	24	7	187	33	124	53
Scarlet Fever	387	2	115	249	17	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	553
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Enteric Fever	—	—	2	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	327
Continued Fever	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	501	2	22	70	98	204	98	7	94	64	153	65	92	33
Other forms of Tuberculosis	100	5	19	36	26	11	3	—	35	12	21	15	11	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	228	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	22	77	27	25	25
Measles	2060	102	1038	874	22	2	—	—	214	429	275	639	426	77
German Measles	275	8	88	157	13	9	—	—	111	32	26	16	65	25
TOTALS	...	4231	355	1456	1769	250	328	153	20	787	702	859	868	821	294	901	—	—	—	—	—	—

Isolation Hospital—Name and Situation	Stoke and Stoke Rural Joint Hospital, Bucknall	Stanfield Hospital, Burslem	North Stafford Joint Small-pox Hospital	Total available Beds, 153	Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3
	55	"
	"	"	"	54	"
	"	"	"	11	"

Notification of Infectious Diseases :—

Scarlet Fever.

Number of cases notified	...	...	...	387
Number of deaths	...	...	...	14
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	3.6
Number of cases removed to hospitals	...	...	327	
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	84.5	

The attack rate for the County Borough during the year was 1.79 per 1,000 of the population.

Table showing the number of cases in the Borough :—

Districts	Burslem		Fenton		Hanley		Longton		Stoke		Tunstall		County Borough	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1917..	104	4	46	1	81	1	57	1	43	1	56	6	387	14

The attack rate per 1,000 of the population for the various districts was as follows :—Burslem 2.75, Fenton 1.93, Hanley 1.34, Longton 1.67, Stoke 1.25, Tunstall 2.22. Showing that the disease was most prevalent in Burslem and Tunstall.

The percentage of removals to the Hospital was 84.5 as compared with 83.6 for the previous year.

The mortality rate in the district during 1917 was 0.06. The mortality rate for the disease in England and Wales was 0.02 per 1,000 of the population, and in the 96 great towns 0.03 per 1,000.

The measures adopted to combat the disease have been fully set out in previous reports.

The case fatality for the year was 3.6 per cent. compared with 3.3 in 1916.

In no case was the outbreak of the disease attributable to anything other than personal contact.

One notification was received during the year of Scarlet Fever occurring among the soldiers in the War Hospital. This case was removed to the Isolation Hospital at Bucknall.

Diphtheria.

Number of cases notified	...	...	...	622
Number of deaths	...	...	...	66
Case fatality per cent.	...	...	...	10.6
Number of cases removed to hospital	...	...	553	
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	88.9	

The attack rate for the Borough was 2.89 per 1,000.

The disease was less prevalent during the year than in 1916, and the fatality was also lower.

Districts	Burslem		Fenton		Hanley		Longton		Stoke		Tunstall		County Borough	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1917	139	17	86	15	187	17	33	2	124	7	53	8	622	66

The attack rate per 1,000 of the population for the various districts was as follows:—Burslem 3.68, Fenton 3.62, Hanley 3.13, Longton 0.97 Stoke 3.63, Tunstall 2.10. Showing that the disease was least prevalent at Longton and Tunstall, but was fairly evenly distributed throughout the rest of the area.

The death rate from Diphtheria in the County Borough was 0.30 compared to 0.13 in the 96 great towns.

Personal contact has again seemed to play the chief part in the spread of the disease.

In one instance a school was closed on account of the prevalence of the disease among the scholars.

Methods adopted for preventing the spread of the disease have been fully set out in previous reports.

Bacteriological examination of swabs from suspected cases is made free of charge to medical men. In 1917 92 examinations were made, with a positive result in 37 cases; in 1916 190 examinations were made, with positive results in 62 cases.

During the year 237 patients were injected with anti-toxin at their homes by their medical attendants. The amount of serum used in each case averaged 2,750 units.

Six hundred contacts were injected for preventive purposes, the amount of serum used averaged 898 units in each case.

The cost to the Corporation was £59 14s. paid to medical men for injecting serum, and £108 9s. 7½d. paid to chemists for the supply of the serum.

Two notifications were received during the year of Diphtheria occurring amongst soldiers in the War Hospital. Both were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Bucknall.

Enteric Fever.

Number of cases notified	...	...	20
Number of deaths	...	...	4
Case-fatality per cent.	...	...	20.0
Number of cases removed to hospitals			15
Percentage of cases removed	...	...	75.0

The attack rate for the Borough was 0.09 per 1,000 of the population.

Districts	Burslem	Fenton	Hanley	Longton	Stoke	Tunstall	County Borough							
Year	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths						
1917	7	2	1	—	4	—	2	2	5	—	1	—	20	4

There is a very satisfactory and steady decline in the prevalence of the disease in the area.

The disease was most prevalent in Burslem, where the attack rate was 0.18 per 1,000 of the population, in Hanley it was 0.06, in Fenton 0.04, in Longton 0.06, Tunstall 0.04, and Stoke 0.14.

The death rate from Enteric Fever in the 96 great towns during the year 1917 was 0.03 per 1,000. In Stoke-on-Trent it was 0.01.

Bacteriological examinations were made by the Corporation Bacteriologist in 7 instances, with a positive result in two cases. In 1916 4 examinations were made, with no positive results.

A soldier was notified from the War Hospital as suffering from Enteric Fever. This case is not included in the preceding figures.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The total number of cases notified by medical men and midwives in 1917 was 228 as compared with 219 in 1916. In 105 instances the diagnosis was not confirmed by a medical man though notifications were received from midwives.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum has been compulsorily notifiable throughout the whole area since 1911, 123 notifications were received during 1917 from medical men either as first notifications or confirming midwives' notifications. 105 notifications were received from midwives which were not confirmed by medical men. The total number of notifications received from midwives was 183. The 228 cases notified were distributed as follows:—

Burslem	...	...	...	52	cases
Fenton	...	...	...	22	"
Hanley	...	...	...	77	"
Longton	...	...	...	27	"
Stoke	...	...	...	25	"
Tunstall	...	...	...	25	"
Number of cases notified	...	...	...	228	
Number of births registered	...	...	...	4,991	
Number of cases per 1,000 births...	...	...	...	45.6	

In 1916 the number of cases per 1,000 births was 38.2.

The ages of the infants on the onset of the disease ranged from one to eighteen days, the vast majority occurring between the ages of one and eight days as usual.

In 118 of the cases the birth was attended by a doctor.

In 110 cases the birth was attended by a midwife.

Nurses were supplied by the Corporation in 120 cases, five of these requiring a nurse both day and night.

The cost of nursing was £445.

In the three worst cases the results were as follows:—

Sight slightly impaired in right eye, to undergo an operation later—1.

Vision lost in left eye, slightly impaired in right eye, to be operated on later—1.

Vision lost in left eye—1.

Measles.

Number of cases notified during the year 2,335, of which 275 were notified as German Measles.

There were 47 deaths compared to 110 in 1916 and 95 in 1915.

The death rate from Measles in 1917 was 0.21 per 1,000, compared to 0.30 for the 96 great towns.

The ages at death were as follows:—

Under 1	1—2	2—5	5—15	15—25
6	12	23	5	1

Districts	Burslem	Fenton	Hanley	Longton	Stoke	Tunstall	County Borough
Year	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
1916	625	30	103	4	1485	56	33
1917	325	5	461	9	301	4	655

Whooping Cough.

There were 87 deaths from Whooping Cough during the year, compared with 36 in 1916 and 64 in 1915.

The deaths occurred at the following ages:—

Under 1	1—2	2—5	5—15
30	16	37	4

This is one of the diseases in connection with which practically no preventive or curative process are taken by the Authority.

Erysipelas.

There were 115 cases notified during the year. There were two deaths from this disease. Last year 175 cases were notified with six deaths.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Twelve cases of Cerebro Spinal Fever were notified amongst the civil population during the year, 10 of these died. Of the two remaining cases one completely recovered and the other had left the district and could not be traced when inquiries were made. Three of the cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and in these the diagnosis was confirmed by bacteriological examination.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

No case of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis was reported during the year.

Tuberculosis.

Phthisis Pulmonalis.

Five hundred and one cases were notified in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations.

The cases were distributed as follows:—

Burslem	...	...	...	...	94
Fenton	...	...	...	...	64
Hanley	...	...	...	...	153
Longton	...	...	...	...	65
Stoke	...	...	...	...	92
Tunstall	...	...	...	...	33

There were 330 deaths from Phthisis during the year, giving a death rate of 1.53 per 1,000; in 1916 there were 326 deaths and a death rate of 1.48 per 1,000. In England and Wales, in 1916, the death rate was 1.18 per 1,000.

The average death rate from Phthisis for England and Wales for 1911—1914 was 1.04 per 1,000 of the population, for 1915 it was 1.16 per 1,000, and for 1916, 1.18.

Sixty-four deaths occurred in persons aged 15 to 25, and 224 in persons between the ages of 25 and 65 years.

One hundred and sixty-seven Bacteriological Examinations were made in 1917 and tubercle bacilli were found in 31 of the specimens submitted.

During the year 1,756 visits were paid by the Health Visitors to cases of Tuberculosis.

There were 125 deaths in the year from forms of Tuberculosis other than Phthisis, this being equal to a rate of 0.58 per 1,000 of the population.

The total death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis, including Phthisis, was 2.11 per 1,000. The deaths from Phthisis were equal to 9.2 per cent. of all the deaths in the County Borough, and the total deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis were equal to 12.7 per cent. of all the deaths. For England and Wales as a whole the corresponding figures were in 1916 8.2 per cent. and 10.6 per cent.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

There were 100 cases notified of other forms of Tuberculosis, and 125 deaths, giving a rate of 0.58 per 1,000 of the population. Of these deaths 13 occurred in children under one year of age, and 38 among children between one year and five years.

Table showing the number of cases notified as suffering from other forms of Tuberculosis during 1917.

	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Totals
Tabes Mesenterica	2	9	6	3	1	..	..	21
Tubercular Meningitis	2	6	5	1	1	..	..	15
Glands	1	1	15	10	1	..	..	28
Osseous .. .. ..	..	2	7	11	7	2	..	29
Skin .. .. ..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
General .. .. ..	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	4
Other Forms .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Totals	5	19	36	26	11	3	..	100

The Tuberculosis Dispensary was opened on the 24th June, 1914.

Hours of Attendance.—The Dispensary is open for the treatment of patients on Wednesday and Friday afternoons, and on Monday night. New patients are seen every Tuesday and Thursday morning, between 9 and 11-30.

The Branch Dispensaries in Burslem and Longton have not been used, as the necessary medical assistance cannot easily be arranged for.

Dr. J. Magill, the Tuberculosis Officer, left for military service at the beginning of August, and Dr. G. F. Seacome was appointed temporary Tuberculosis Officer in his place in May, 1917, and assisted Dr. Magill till August. Subsequently Dr. Mott, of Burslem, assisted Dr. Seacome by attending at the Stanfield Sanatorium on three days each week.

During the year there were 7,243 attendances at the Dispensary, an increase of 882 compared with 1916.

Number of Patients dealt with.

		Males		Females		Total
Adults—	Insured ...	226	...	77	...	303
„	Non-insured ...	132	...	63	...	195
Children ...	...	110	...	120	...	230
						728

The foregoing number was from the following districts:—

Stoke	...	...	...	...	...	168
Hanley	...	...	...	...	...	220
Burslem	...	...	...	...	...	104
Tunstall	...	...	...	...	...	25
Fenton	...	...	...	...	...	112
Longton	...	...	...	...	...	99
						728

The Nurses at the Dispensary visit all insured cases frequently at their homes, the total number of visits being 3,447, and the Tuberculosis Officer visits such insured cases as are placed on domiciliary treatment.

A large amount of extra work has been undertaken in connection with the examination of Military Recruits, referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by the Recruiting Medical Board, making a total of 138. In addition to these a number of discharged soldiers, suffering from Tuberculosis or doubtful cases of Tuberculosis, have been referred to the Dispensary by the Hanley, Longton and Stoke Pensions Committees.

Stanfield Sanatorium.

Special arrangements have been made for the early admission of Discharged Soldiers to the Sanatorium. Ten beds have been allotted for these cases, and this has now been increased to 15, when necessary. Most of these cases are admitted for an average of 12 weeks.

ADMISSION TO STANFIELD SANATORIUM—

Males	Females	Children	Total
82	101	53	236

CONDITION ON DISCHARGE—

Improved	Stationary	Worse	Deaths	Total
194	25	12	5	236

A certain amount of difficulty has been found in dealing with the admission of Discharged Soldiers to the Sanatorium. Many of these cases have already spent some considerable time in Military Hospitals previous to their discharge from the Army, and are naturally disinclined to enter any institution for any further long treatment, but prefer to remain at home. Some decline altogether to enter the Sanatorium, others only enter for a short period of a few weeks. The restraints which are necessary for any real benefit to be derived from Sanatorium treatment are generally more irksome to these cases after the larger amount of freedom they have enjoyed at the Military Hospitals, and some few have left the Sanatorium within 24 hours after admission.

During the year a portion of the grounds has been prepared as a small bowling green. This is of very great benefit as a healthy means of open-air recreation for the men.

It is hoped later to prepare a lawn suitable for croquet for the use of the female patients, who are at present restricted to walking exercise. An improvement has been made by the laying down of asphalt walks for the use of patients taking exercise.

After-Care Committee.

The After-Care Committee, which has now been in existence three years, has been able to give valuable assistance to patients by grants of money, clothing and supplies of extra nourishment.

Respiratory Diseases.

During the year 1917 there were 869 deaths from Respiratory Diseases, giving a death rate of 4.04 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 3.68 for the year 1916.

The distribution of these deaths is shown in the following table:

Name of District	No. of Deaths from Bronchitis	No. of Deaths from Pneumonia	No. of Deaths from Fibroid Phthisis	No. of Deaths from Pleurisy	No. of Deaths from other Respiratory Diseases	Total	Rate per 1000
BURSLEM ..	64	97	..	3	14	178	4.69
FENTON ..	38	29	..	..	2	69	2.90
HANLEY ..	120	103	..	1	13	237	3.93
LONGTON ..	100	44	2	3	17	166	4.89
STOKE ..	52	56	1	3	2	114	3.34
TUNSTALL ..	70	32	3	—	3	105	4.16
WHOLE BOROUGH ..	444	361	3	10	51	869	4.03

The death rate from Bronchitis in the County Borough was 2.06 per 1,000 of the population. There were 444 deaths from this disease as against 475 last year. The rate for 1916 was 2.16.

The death rate from Pneumonia was 1.67 per 1,00 of the population. The rate for 1916 was 1.23.

Alcoholism.

Alcoholism caused 13 deaths during 1917, 9 of these being certified as due to Cirrhosis of the Liver. In 1916 there were 21 deaths due to Alcoholism.

Lead Poisoning.

This is an affection which is associated with pottery manufacture. Through careful supervision, and under the Special Rules of the Home Office, Lead Poisoning has diminished. There was an increase in the number of cases in 1910 and 1911, but the number diminished in 1913, and was considerably lower in 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917.

According to the report of the Departmental Committee there were engaged in 1907, as lead workers under the Earthenware and China Rules in North Staffordshire, 5,299 persons (3,371 males and 1,928 females). In 1906 there were 85 cases of lead poisoning; in 1907, 82 cases; in 1908, 91 cases; in 1909, 49 cases; in 1910, 63 cases; in 1911, 78 cases; in 1912, 74 cases; in 1913, 55 cases; in 1914, 23 cases; in 1915, 22 cases; in 1916, 21 cases, and in 1917, 16 cases.

Deaths from Lead Poisoning with Occupations:—

Ware Cleaner	...	...	...	I
Potters' Oddman	...	...	...	I
Potters' Placers	...	...	...	2
Potters' Glaze Maker	...	...	...	I
Colour Mixer	...	...	...	I
Occupation not stated	...	...	...	I
				—
				7

In 1916 there were four deaths attributed to Lead Poisoning.

Special Bacteriological Examinations.

During the year one specimen has been forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for Bacteriological Examination, from a suspected case of Cerebro Spinal Fever.

Isolation Hospitals.

There are now two Hospitals for the treatment of cases of Infectious Diseases occurring in the Borough, viz.:—The Bucknall Isolation Hospital and the Bagnall Small-pox Hospital. At Bucknall, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever cases are admitted.

For the year ending March 31st, 1918, the contribution of the County Borough to the Joint Hospital amounted to £13,562 7s. 6d.

During the year 1917 the following patients from the County Borough were treated in the wards of the Bucknall Hospital:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	332
Diphtheria	...	...	...	553
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	15
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis			...	3
Measles	...	...	...	11
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3

Bagnall Hospital is administered by the North Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital Board, and was built in 1903-04, to accommodate 54 patients.

The amount of the contribution of the County Borough to the Joint Board during the year ending the 31st March, 1918, was £482.

Statement of Vaccination for the year ending 1917
(Furnished by the Vaccination Officers).

District	Births	Successfully Vaccinated	Insusceptible	Had Small-pox	Died Un-vaccinated	Postponed by Medical Authority	Certs. of exemption (conscientious objection)	Removals certified	Removals not found and not accounted for	Not dealt with for various reasons
BURSLEM ..	882	354	..	..	70	..	403	..	6	49
FENTON ..	654	295	2	..	63	57	184	5	21	27
HANLEY ..	1637	515	1	..	178	271	352	21	140	159
LONGTON ..	864	454	..	..	89	58	225	7	20	11
STOKE ..	833	339	..	..	56	61	314	5	33	25
TUNSTALL ..	650	198	..	..	46	1	360	1	13	31
COUNTY BOROUGH	5520	2155	3	..	502	448	1838	39	233	302

Disinfection.

The cost of disinfection during the year was £755.

The total number of houses disinfected during the year was 1,567, and the number of rooms in such houses 1,836. Some 97 rooms in 22 schools were sprayed. The number of articles passed through the Disinfecter totalled 17,564. Four cabs were disinfected during the year, and also one police cell.

Maternity and Child Welfare. Midwives' Act, 1902.

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the Midwives' Act:—

Ninety nine midwives notified their intention to practice in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent during 1917; 15 of these lived outside the Borough, and most of the work is done in the surrounding districts. 29 of the midwives are trained; this means that 71 per cent. of the midwives practising in the Borough are untrained.

During the year one midwife died, one notified her intention to cease practise, and two midwives had their certificates cancelled by the Central Midwives' Board.

Of the 99 midwives 31 per cent. are illiterate. 49 per cent. keep records of the pulse and temperature of their patients during the lying-in period. 4 per cent. keep records of the temperature only. 33 per cent. keep no records of pulse or temperature.

INSPECTION OF BAGS AND APPLIANCES.

On the whole the bags were found clean and tidy, and contained the necessary appliances.

With the help of the Assistant Lady Medical Officer and the Senior Health Visitor, it has been possible to make more frequent routine inspections in cases where it was necessary.

In addition to 491 routine inspections the following 175 special visits to midwives have been made:—

Enquiries into Still-births	...	...	...	97
Late notification of Births	...	...	...	15
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	17
Ophthalmia	...	...	...	20
Special visits in connection with Medical Aid Forms, Still-births, Infant Deaths, &c.				26
				—
				175

In connection with the Stoke-on-Trent Midwives' Association a lecture was given by the Lady Medical Officer to the midwives of the district on "The Responsibility of the Midwife to the State."

EXAMINATION OF REGISTERS AND MEDICAL AID RECORD BOOKS.

The Registers are fairly well kept. Several Registers were, on inspection, found not entered up to date. Where the midwives cannot write or read the Register is only filled up at intervals by a relative or friend.

INSPECTIONS WITH REGARD TO PERSONAL CLEANLINESS.

All the midwives wear washable dresses, and on the whole are satisfactory in this respect.

During 1917 there have been received from the midwives:—

- 335 Records for calling in Medical Aid.
- 183 Ophthalmia Notifications.
- 17 Notifications of death of new-born children.
- 6 Notifications of death of the mother.
- 135 Still-births on special forms

The 335 records of calling for Medical Aid were divided as follows:—

- 166 for abnormality or complication during labour.
- 30 " " " lying-in period
- 139 " " " in the case of the child.

Puerperal Fever.

There were 11 cases of Puerperal Fever notified during 1917, three proved fatal. Nurses were supplied in two cases.

	Doctor in attendance	Midwife in attendance	Doctor and Midwife in attendance	Total
Burslem	...	I	I	6
Hanley	...	—	2	3
Longton	...	—	—	1
Stoke	...	—	—	—
Tunstall	...	—	—	—
Fenton	...	—	I	1
	—	—	—	—
	I	4	6	11
	—	—	—	—

DEATHS ASSIGNED TO PREGNANCY OR CHILD BIRTH.

	Puerperal Fever	Other Diseases	Totals	Rate per 1,000 births
1917	...	3	16	19

The rate per 1,000 births in England and Wales was in 1916—4.12.

All cases of Puerperal Fever in which a midwife alone was in attendance were inquired into.

During 1917 four midwives were reported to the Committee for the following offences:—

Three for failing to notify, or delaying to notify cases of Ophthalmia.

One for failing to report exposure to infection after attending a case which developed Puerperal Fever.

Three of these midwives were reported to the Central Midwives' Board, and in two cases their certificates were cancelled.

Uncertified Women.

Visits were made in all cases where uncertified women attended confinements.

Infantile Mortality.

The total number of deaths of infants under the age of one year was 579, being equal to an infantile mortality rate of 116 per 1,000 births. In 1916 it was 126, and in 1915 it was 147.

The infantile mortality rate in the 96 great towns was 104.

During the ten years 1907—1916 the infantile mortality rate for the County Borough averaged 156. During 1917, 1916 and 1915 the rate for the six districts were:—

	1917	1916	1915
Burslem	140	119	149
Fenton	118	138	164
Hanley	107	130	130
Longton	130	147	172
Stoke	78	100	108
Tunstall	121	121	174

Of the 579 infants who died in the County Borough before reaching the age of 12 months:—

133, or 22.9 per cent., died in the first week,
 36, or 6.2 per cent., died in the second week,
 32, or 5.5 per cent., died in the third week, and
 18, or 3.1 per cent., died in the fourth week.

The number of deaths in the first month was 219, or 37.7 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

18.3 per cent. of the infants died between the ages of one and three months, 17.0 per cent. between the ages of three and six months, 14.8 per cent. between the ages of six and nine months, and 12.2 per cent. between the ages of nine and twelve months.

This year 37.7 per cent. of the infant deaths occurred in children under one month old, compared to 33.9 per cent. in 1916.

It will be seen from the following list the relation of certain diseases to the infantile mortality of the district. Enteritis and Diarrhoea accounted for 29 deaths, Premature Birth 105, Convulsions 37, Bronchitis 70. Tuberculous Diseases 14, Pneumonia 65, Atrophy and Debility 113, Congenital defects, 25.

Seven deaths were attributed to overlying, as against 5 last year.

TABLE 7.

Being Table IV. of the Local Government Board.

Infant Mortality occurring in the Borough and Six Districts, 1917.

Causes of Death	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	16	35	18	201	105	95	84	70	117	5	144	7	103	4	50	3	78	1	55	24	Total deaths under 1 year	
All Causes	Certified	117	31	18	16	35	1	1	1	106	105	105	105	117	5	144	7	103	4	50	3	78	1	55	24	
Small-pox	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	
Measles	
Scarlet Fever	
Whooping Cough	
Diphtheria and Croup	
Erysipelas	
Tuberculous Meningitis	
Abdominal Tuberculosis (B)	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	
Meningitis	
Convulsions	
Laryngitis	
Bronchitis	
Pneumonia (all forms)	
Diarrhoea	
Enteritis	
Gastritis	
Syphilis	
Rickets	
Suffocation, overlying	
Injury at Birth	
Atelectasis	
Congenital Malformations (C)	..	13	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	..	73	15	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	..	29	8	15	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Causes	
Totals	..	133	36	32	18	219	106	98	86	70	122	67	151	107	53	79	579	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Nett Births in the year—Legitimate, 4721; Illegitimate, 270. Nett Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants, 540; Illegitimate Infants, 39.

Deaths under one year per 1,000 Births in the Borough.

Year	Total Births	From all causes	From Diarrhoea	From all causes, excluding Diarrhoea	From Respiratory Diseases	From Debility, Congenital Defects and Premature Births	From Measles	From Whooping Cough
1917	4991	116	5.8	110.2	27.0	48.6	1.2	6.0

Average rate for the ten years 1908—17... 151
 Highest rate for the ten years (1911) ... 203
 Lowest rate for the ten years (1917) ... 116

Statistics for England and Wales—

Average Infantile Mortality for 10 years ending 1911.	Average from Diarrhoeal Diseases.	From all Causes excluding Diarrhoeal Diseases.
129.8	22.8	107.0

The infantile mortality rate for the first quarter was 162
 " " " second " 133
 " " " third " 82
 " " " fourth " 77

The infantile mortality rate in the 96 great towns in 1910 was 115, in 1911 it was 140, in 1912 it was 101, in 1913 it was 117, in 1914 it was 114, in 1915 it was 117, in 1916 it was 99, and in 1917 it was 104.

Method of feeding in 518 deaths that have been inquired into:—

District	MOTHER NOT WORKING			MOTHER WORKING		
	Breast Fed	Artificially Fed	Mixed	Breast Fed	Artificially Fed	Mixed
Hanley	62	24	10	20	19	3
Burslem	31	17	15	9	11	27
Tunstall	24	16	10	7	12	0
Longton	53	16	7	7	14	1
Fenton	29	18	1	1	7	1
Stoke	29	6	0	3	7	1
County Borough ..	228	97	43	47	70	33

Notification of Births Act.

Of the 5,095 births notified in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent during 1917 4,150 were attended by midwives.

Births notified:—

			Total	Doctors in attendance	Midwives in attendance	Public Institutions
Hanley	..	..	1407	184	1223	—
Burslem	..	..	897	154	743	—
Longton	..	..	848	184	664	—
Stoke	..	..	705	116	568	21
Tunstall	..	..	662	110	546	6
Fenton	..	..	576	170	406	—
Stoke-on-Trent			5095	918	4150	27

All cases attended by midwives are visited about the 4th or 5th day.

Table showing the feeding of 4,786 babies born in 1917:—

District	Total	Breast Fed	Mixed	Artificially Fed	Working Mothers	Housewives
Hanley	1360	1112	94	154	359	1001
Burslem	747	553	78	116	347	400
Tunstall	676	421	22	233	224	452
Fenton	568	465	43	60	137	431
Longton	814	651	61	102	242	572
Stoke	621	551	11	59	77	544
Whole Boro'	4786	3753	309	724	1386	3400

There were 213 still-births notified during 1917.

	Attended by			Public Institutions
	Doctors	Midwives		
Burslem	8	26
Fenton	10	8
Hanley	16	45
Longton	13	19
Stoke	18	18
Tunstall	9	20
Total	...	74	136	3

Summary of Visits paid by the Lady Medical Officer and six Health Visitors in 1917:—

Infants under one year—First	...	5,042
Revisits	...	12,218
Revisits to children over one year of age		11,280
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia	...	691
Still-births and Death Enquiries	...	1,150
Midwives' Visits	...	491
Phthisis Visits	...	1,756
Wasted Visits—out, removed, etc.	...	3,235
Special Visits	...	1,815

Extract from the Report on Child Welfare Work. By the Lady Medical Officer.

During the year it is satisfactory to report continued progress in the Infant Welfare Work. The time of the Health Visitors is increasingly being spent at Welfare Centres, but the home visiting of the infants is more important, and an increased staff will be required in the near future to keep pace with this side of the work

A special effort has been made in 1917 to supervise the homes of all illegitimate infants in the districts, and a monthly visit has been paid as far as possible. The Illegitimate Death Rate is still too high in the Borough, and one cannot help feeling that a compulsory attendance of all illegitimate and "Nurse" children at an Infant Welfare Centre would be of some assistance in the reduction of the Mortality Rate.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES AMONGST ILLEGITIMATE AND LEGITIMATE CHILDREN IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOKE-ON-TRENT.

	Illegitimate	Legitimate	Whole
1911	306	197	203
1912	215	123	128
1913	232	166	169
1914	283	138	144
1915	167	146	147
1916	152	125	126
1917	144	114	116

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

During the year the attendances at all the Infant Welfare Centres have increased, and now average as follows:—

Burslem	...	...	...	130—150
Longton	...	...	...	120—130
Shelton	...	...	...	60—80
Etruria	...	...	...	30—40

The Voluntary Centre at Hanley has continued its work during the year in co-ordination with the Health Department.

During the year the names of 2,087 infants have been entered on the register of the Centres.

Under one year	...	...	...	1,392
Over one year	...	...	...	695
				—
				2,087
				—
Total attendances	...	...	...	14,463
Number of Consultations	...	...	...	10,084

AGES OF CHILDREN AT DATE OF ENTRY TO WELCOMES.

Under 1 mth.	1-2 mths.	2-3 mths.	3-4 mths.	4-5 mths.	5-6 mths.
52	358	237	167	139	88
6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	12 mths-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.
201	150	345	191	95	64

It will be observed from this table of ages at date of entry that 647 infants were admitted under the age of 3 months. This may be taken as a fairly satisfactory early date of entry.

The feeding, generally speaking, is still unsatisfactory. There is an increased number of breast fed infants at all the Centres, but there is a tendency still to continue breast feeding too long.

DRIED MILK.

During the year the greater cost of cow's milk, and in many cases the difficulty of obtaining a regular supply, led to an increased use of Dried Milk—this has been followed by very satisfactory results.

The use of Dried Milk supplemented by fruit juice has been followed by excellent results. It has also been used to supplement cow's milk given to some of the older children. In several cases the milk was allowed for the nursing mother to take herself. It has also been given to infants to supplement breast feeding.

In no case is Dried Milk supplied for the use of either infants or mothers without an order from the Medical Officer at the Infant Consultation.

FEEDING OF 472 ARTIFICIALLY FED INFANTS UNDER
ONE YEAR OF AGE AT THE TIME OF THEIR FIRST
ATTENDANCE AT THE WELCOME:—

Patent foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Dried milk preparations	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Condensed milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Cow's milk and water	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Cow's milk and barley water	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Patent food and cow's milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Patent food and condensed milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dried milk and rusks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cow's milk and mixed diet	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Condensed milk and water	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Condensed milk and boiled bread and water (pobs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Albulactin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cow's milk and lime water	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nestle's milk and arrowroot	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Condensed milk and barley water	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Condensed milk and dried milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Condensed milk and Quaker oats	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cow's milk and rusks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cow's milk and water and rusks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dried milk and Virol	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cow's milk and dried milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Total							472

The special feature of the work in Stoke-on-Trent is the large number of sickly babies attending the Welfare Centres, and, though only a little could be done for each case, the results have been so beneficial that it is felt that any attempt to limit the numbers would be wrong. These infants show such a favourable response to medical treatment that a slight amount of care and attention seems to tide them over a temporary unevenness in the path of the first year of life.

INFANT AILMENTS.

During the year 1,046 infants were treated at the Centres for minor ailments.

No child is treated at the Centres whose parents are able to provide medical advice privately, and, of course, no case of acute illness is dealt with.

Table showing condition of the children treated at the Welcomes during the year:—

Bronchial catarrh	...	...	189	Catarrhal conjunctivitis	...	38
Gastro-intestinal catarrh	...	...	3	Purulent conjunctivitis	...	23
Diarrhoea	...	...	158	Blepharitis	...	12
Dyspepsia	...	...	12	Nystagmus	...	1
Excessive vomiting	...	...	22	Enlarged cervical glands	...	3
Tubercular peritonitis	...	...	1	Discharging ears	...	16
Constipation	...	...	40	Nose bleeding	...	1
Stomatitis	...	...	11	Scalds, burns and other		
Urticaria	...	...	1	accidents...		14
Psoriasis	...	...	2	Pruritis vulva	...	2
Impetigo contagiosa	...	...	40	Ingrowing toe nail	...	2
Eczema	...	...	37	Inflamed and discharging		
Seborrhoea (scalp)	...	...	27	umbilicus		2
Inflamed buttocks	...	...	17	Umbilical hernia	...	29
Ringworm	...	...	3	Thread worms	...	8
Septic sores after vaccination	...	1		Balanitis	...	1
Marasmus	...	...	9	Abscess of arm	...	1
Anæmia and debility	...	166		Vulvitis	...	2
Rickets	...	...	74	Prolapsus ani	...	1
Dentition	...	...	50	Congenital heart conditions	...	2
Congenital syphilis	...	18		Hæmaturia	...	1
Thyroid deficiency	...	4		Epilepsy	...	1
Specific epiphysitis	...	1				
						1,046

From the above table the prevalence of bronchial catarrh will be specially noticed. There are many contributing causes to this state of affairs, chief of all being the lack of sufficient and suitable clothing. While a warmly-clad infant may withstand cold weather and constant changes of temperature, a poorly dressed one cannot do so successfully. It is hoped that in the future every infant in the Potteries will have at least a long-sleeved woollen undervest. This sounds a very modest possibility, but it is not as easy to attain as one might imagine.

Disturbances of the digestive system come next in frequency on the list. The summer was fortunately a cool one, and there was nothing in the nature of a diarrhoea epidemic. Cases of diarrhoea, however, crop up all the year round.

RICKETS, ANÆMIA AND DEBILITY.

A large number of cases of early rickets was treated at the Centres, and also a large number of cases of anæmia and debility, treated, it is hoped, before rickets developed.

Several cases of debility after measles, whooping-cough and broncho-pneumonia were treated with excellent results. The parents of these children in nearly every case were unable to provide cod liver oil emulsion or chemical food, the help given in this way with extra milk allowed from the Centre prevented many of them becoming permanently debilitated.

It will also be observed from the list that skin troubles were of very frequent occurrence; rashes and eczematous conditions were very often met with. The cause can only be assumed in too many cases to be a want of cleanliness and care of the infant's skin.

OCCUPATIONS OF MOTHERS.

The problem of the working mother is a serious one. In several cases the extra money that the woman earns undoubtedly means more comfort and better food at home, but, generally, it is to be regretted that any woman with children under five years of age should have work other than the care of the home and her family. It surely is in the best interest of the nation that the woman's whole time and attention should be given to her children.

It will be noticed from the following table that 1,136 of the mothers were engaged on pottery occupations before marriage.

From the second table it will be seen that only 90 mothers were working at pottery occupations after marriage. It is satisfactory to report that in many cases the women were allowed time off from their work to bring infants up to the Centres.

POTTERY OCCUPATIONS OF MOTHERS BEFORE MARRIAGE.

Clayworkers	...	...	...	208
Transferrers	...	...	...	368
Dippers	...	...	...	41
Warehouse	...	...	...	266
Aerographers	...	...	...	12
Decorators	...	...	...	91
Gilders	...	...	...	103
Tilemakers	...	...	...	32
Glost placers	...	...	...	11
Polishers	...	...	...	4
				—
Total	...	...	1,136	—

POTTERY OCCUPATIONS OF MOTHERS AFTER MARRIAGE.

Warehouse	...	...	...	38
Gilders	...	...	...	8
Transferers	...	...	...	22
Lead workers	...	...	...	I
Batter-out	...	...	...	I
Stiltmakers	...	...	...	I
Enamellers	...	...	...	2
Placers	...	...	...	2
Biscuit liners	...	...	...	I
Scallopers	...	...	...	I
Decorators	...	...	...	6
Tilemakers	...	...	...	I
Mould-runners	...	...	...	I
Ware cleaners	...	...	...	I
Insulator cleaners	...	...	...	I
Dippers	...	...	...	I
Potter's printers	...	...	...	I
Taker-off	...	...	...	I
<hr/>				
Total	...	...	90	

LADIES' VOLUNTARY COMMITTEES.

During the year valuable voluntary assistance has been given by the Ladies' Committees at Burslem and Longton Centres, under the presidency of Mrs. Henry Wood, Burslem, and Mrs. Dawes, Longton.

The Committees keep the register of names and distribute Dried Milk and Virol. Special feeding bottles, cots and fire-guards are also stocked, and during the year War Savings Clubs have made good progress at both Centres. The work in connection with the Clothing Club must be specially mentioned. The garments provided are all wool, and they are sold to the mothers at the cost price of the material. This is a great boon to those women who have no time to make clothes for their children, and it must be borne in mind that the mending and darning alone for a family make no small inroads on a hard worked mother's spare time.

The ladies have provided tea each week for the mothers, and the friendly interchange of ideas taking place between them has no small value.

WORK OF THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

A commencement was made in January with the Ante-natal Clinic at Richmond Lodge, Shelton, and during the year 47 women registered themselves.

Total attendance for the year ... 169

The aim of the Ante-natal Clinic is to look after the expectant mother and to ensure as far as possible that she may have a healthy full-time child and a safe confinement. A few cases have been referred to the Clinic by the Midwives of the district, but it is hoped that in the future there may be still more co-operation in this direction.

Many of the women were suffering from slight ailments at the time of their first attendance at the Clinic. Bad varicose veins were specially noticed, and where the woman was unable to pay for bandages they were provided for her. A list is subjoined of the principal conditions found on examination.

Varicose veins	...	...	...	...	...	15
Severe constipation	...	...	...	...	...	17
Breast conditions—cracked and depressed nipples						9
Anæmia and debility	...	...	...	...	...	10
Excessive vomiting and dyspepsia						3
Threatened miscarriage	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pruritis vulva	...	...	...	...	...	2
Contracted pelvis	...	...	...	...	...	1

The case of contracted pelvis was referred for further advice, and ultimately a Caesarean section was performed with satisfactory results.

It was found as time went on that many women were suffering from anæmia and debility simply through lack of sufficient nourishment.

Some of the women presenting themselves were in such urgent need of proper feeding that it was decided by the Health Committee to provide free dinners for these expectant mothers attending the Clinic who were unable to get sufficient nourishment at home. To the end of the year free dinners were provided by the Corporation for these women at a net cost of £15 2s. 9d.

Arrangements were made with different eating houses in the district for the provision of dinners, and the rule is that the mothers must attend and eat the dinner there as long as possible.

STILL-BIRTHS ENQUIRY.

During the year a beginning was made of an enquiry into all still-births attended by Midwives in the Borough. These enquiries were made solely through the Midwives, principally with the idea of finding out if any delay in sending for medical help had any influence in the cause of the still-birth; 102 enquiries were made, but no definite conclusion is possible from the information collected. The causes have been roughly classified as follows:—

Fall	...	...	...	...	27
Work and worry	...	...	...	...	10
Delayed delivery	...	...	...	...	7
Cord defects	...	...	...	...	3
Heavy lifting	...	...	...	...	3
Accidental Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	2
Drink	...	...	...	...	1
Lead workers	...	...	...	...	3
Undeveloped	...	...	...	...	3
Cause unknown	...	...	...	...	43
Total	...	...	...	...	102

In 96 enquiries they were divided into:—

Workers	...	...	...	...	24
Part-time workers					9
Non-workers	...	...	...	...	63
					—
					96

Presentations in these 96 cases:—

Vertex	...	...	...	...	91
Foot	...	...	...	...	1
Breech	...	...	...	...	3
Face	...	...	...	...	1

WORKERS.

Full-time	...	...	...	...	13
Premature	...	...	...	...	11

PART-TIME WORKERS.

Full-time	...	...	...	...	6
Premature	...	...	...	...	3

NON-WORKERS.

Full-time	...	...	...	...	36
Premature	...	...	...	...	27

CONCLUSION.

It is hoped that next year may see the beginnings of an Infants' Hospital in the Borough. If a start can be made with only six cots it will be possible to take in a certain proportion of the premature and marasmic babies whose chance of surviving beyond the first few weeks of life is very poor.

As time goes on the experience gained in Infant Welfare work develops the settled conviction in one's mind that the results as regards the health of the children are undoubtedly beneficial, and that many delicate babies survive in consequence of the special advice given with regard to their feeding and welfare.

Every effort should be made to improve the standard and efficiency of the work already being done, and also to extend the present field of labour.

Offensive Trades.

There are in the area:—

Two Knacker's Yards,

Two Skin Markets,

Four Bone-Burning Works,

Several Marine Stores, Tripe Boilers, and Gut Scrapers.

A list of Offensive Trades has been scheduled by the Authority and Bye-Laws are in force for their control.

No serious complaints have been received during the year.

Summary of Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Nuisances, to the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year 1917, 4,845 nuisances were dealt with, compared with 4,569 in 1916.

Table of nuisances dealt with:—

District	..	NORTHERN DIVISION.			SOUTHERN DIVISION.			Total
		1	2	3	5	7	8	
Houses completely examined on account of	Infectious Disease	162	239	243	178	177	107	1106
	Alleged Nuisances	1	..	..	1	..	..	2
	House Inspection	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Houses examined only as to	Occupants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Drainage	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
	Structure	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Total number of houses examined	..	164	207	233	168	173	105	1050
Total number of houses in which defects were found	..	20	66	61	20	5	15	187
Number of defects in above houses	..	66	148	127	29	10	32	412

Mr. H. Spencer, the Deputy Chief Inspector of Nuisances, has since September been acting as Chief Inspector. Owing to the absence of part of the Staff on military service only six Inspectors are now employed in place of ten.

A classification of the various defects discovered and dealt with will be found in the following table:—

District	NORTHERN DIVISION.			SOUTHERN DIVISION.			Total	
	1	2	3	5	7	8		
Houses dirty or overcrowded ..	28	31	30	32	3	10	134	
,, damp and dilapidated ..	90	148	200	86	92	50	666	
,, badly lighted or ventilated ..	3	64	66	29	41	51	254	
Drainage defective	35	56	64	44	28	42	269	
,, want of	1	2	5	1	1	2	12	
,, stopped	241	137	185	213	145	193	1114	
Sinks defective or required ..	10	25	36	19	22	15	127	
Other drainage defects ..	59	32	49	26	20	31	217	
Privies defective	13	15	3	7	..	11	49	
Additional closets required ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	4
Defects in W.C's	54	100	147	122	59	103	585	
W.C's without flush	9	19	60	98	47	36	269	
Waste water closets defective ..	..	9	2	..	3	29	43
Ashpits open .. ..	..	11	11	..	..	..	22
,, required	12	15	10	24	15	33	109	
,, structure defective ..	1	10	1	..	..	..	12
Ashbins defective	12	65	33	51	5	33	199	
Outbuildings—defects	5	1	12	4	9	9	40	
Paving	22	61	56	19	23	35	216	
Houses without water supply ..	5	15	29	30	28	31	138	
Other house nuisances ..	10	3	10	..	8	10	41	
Accumulations dealt with ..	30	37	25	49	14	22	177	
Manure receptacles	3	9	..	..	..	7	19
Keeping of animals	5	2	4	6	2	3	22	
Other outside nuisances ..	22	9	27	8	14	14	107	
TOTAL ..		672	878	1065	887	573	770	4845
Other work done	Revisits to nuisances ..	1507	1149	1275	2302	2177	2534	10,944
	,, infectious disease ..	77	102	57	60	53	53	402
	,, completion of reports ..	284	353	359	467	302	349	2114
	Visits for other causes ..	1231	1190	588	1070	466	864	5409

Inspection of Drainage Work.

District ...	NORTHERN DIVISION			SOUTHERN DIVISION			Total
	1	2	3	5	7	8	
New drains inspected ...	25	26	14	52	7	24	148
Revisits while work in progress ...	113	49	74	..	12	96	344
Drains inspected after reconstruction...	34	7	29	94	24	12	200
Revisits while work in progress ...	83	10	41	1	5	9	149
Other visits on account of drainage work...	123	10	9	10	30	34	216

Conversion of Privies.

The conversion of privies, pail closets and other forms of closet was practically at a standstill during the year, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Privies repaired ...	...	...	...	9
„ abolished ...	...	...	...	14
„ converted ...	...	...	...	35
Pails converted ...	...	...	...	0
Waste water-closets converted ...				10
New water-closets provided ...				6

These low figures are due, first to the discontinuance of the conversion grant, and second to the enormous increase in cost of materials and the difficulty in obtaining supplies.

Complaints.

The number of complaints received yearly is increasing. During the year, 1,857 complaints were received and investigated, 579 at the office and 1,278 by the District Inspectors. Of the 579 received at the office, 409 were in writing and duly signed, 136 were in writing but anonymous, and 34 were verbal. On visiting, 174 of the total were discovered to be unfounded.

Included in the total of 579 are 263 referred from the Health Visitors.

The following matters brought to the notice of the Department during the year were referred to the Borough Surveyor:—

Dangerous structures ...	...	...	16
Offensive sewer ventilators ...	...	...	8
Stopped sewers ...	...	...	18
Stopped surface water gullies ...	...	...	6
Defective street paving ...	...	...	2
Other matters ...	...	...	6
 Total ...	...	...	56

Offensive Trades.

Visits under this section have been paid as often as possible, but no contravention of Bye-Laws has been reported.

Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses, and Smoke Nuisances.

Owing to War conditions this work is being carried out by Messrs. Addison and Hulme in addition to their usual work.

It has not been found necessary to make formal reports or serve

The following table shows the number of defects found in connection with the sanitary accommodation of Factories:—

SANITARY CONVENIENCES	1916			1917		
	Defects found	Defects remedied	Out-standing at end of year	Defects found	Defects remedied	Out-standing at end of year
Insufficient	...	4	5	...	1	1
Unsuitable	...	3	1	2	1	1
Defective	...	14	18	...	10	11
Not separate for sexes	...	5	5	...	1	1
Badly lighted	...	5	1	4	2	1
Badly ventilated	...	3	1	2	2	2
Without proper fasteners on doors	...	16	30	...	8	7
Dirty condition	...	105	133	...	98	101
Foul or defective urinals	...	3	3	...	2	2
Other nuisances	...	17	18	...	21	20
Fittings	...	36	32	4	26	25
Total	...	206	247	12	172	172
						2

TABLE OF WORK DONE IN REMEDYING DEFECTS
FOUND IN FACTORIES:—

	1916	1917
Privies abolished entirely	...	2
New water-closets provided	...	4
New automatic flush water-closets provided	...	—
New closets provided (additional accommodation)	...	4
Fasteners fixed on doors of conveniences used by females	...	30
Closets screened or approaches separated	...	3
Separate doors and partitions provided	...	—
Foul closets cleansed	...	133
Closets provided with flushing cisterns	...	—
Foul urinals cleansed or abolished	...	3
Additional light or ventilation provided	...	4
Closet fittings repaired	...	40
Other defects remedied	...	18

Workshops.

During the year 1,003 inspections have been made of Workshops and Bakehouses.

Sanitary Defects found in Workshops.

DEFECTS	1916			1917		
	Defects found	Defects remedied	Defects Outstanding at end of year	Defects found	Defects remedied	Defects Outstanding at end of year
Want of Cleanliness	...	92	84	8	158	157
Want of Ventilation	...	11	9	2	13	14
Overcrowding	...	3	3	...	...	...
Drainage of Floors	...	4	3	1	...	...
Other Nuisances	...	43	41	2	15	13
SANITARY CONVENiences:						
Insufficient	...	11	8	3	8	9
Unsuitable	...	17	18	...	3	2
Defective	...	26	22	4	15	16
Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	2	...	2
Badly lighted	...	6	6	...	2	2
Badly ventilated	...	9	11	...	3	3
No fasteners on doors of						
Females W.C.'s	...	5	7	...	...	...
Dirty condition	...	81	86	5	67	70
Fittings	...	30	24	6	29	33
Intervening spaces provided	1	2	...	2	2	...
Total	...	339	324	31	317	321
						28

Bakehouses.

There are now on the register 113 Bakehouses as compared with 114 in the previous year. During the year 280 visits were paid as compared with 230 in 1916. A number were in an unsuitable condition owing to their requiring limewashing and other sanitary defects, the number of notices served being 2.

Table of Breaches of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses, Sections 97—100 Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Section of Act	Contravention	Found	Remedied
Sec. 97	Drain having opening within Bakehouse	...	...
98	Bakehouse unfit on Sanitary Grounds	...	...
99	Bakehouse requiring limewashing	76	76
	Total	76	76

Outworkers.

The total number of lists received has been 196 as compared with 175 in the previous year.

		1916	1917
Lists of Outworkers received	...	175	196
Number of names on lists	...	345	356
Warning Notices sent <i>re</i> Lists	...	179	153
No visits have been paid to Outworkers during the year.			

Smoke Nuisances.

No Smoke Observations have been taken during the year.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	118	13	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	1003	32	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	—	—	—
Total	1121	45	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Number of Defects	
	Found	Remedied
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>		
Want of Cleanliness	158	157
Want of Ventilation	13	14
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—
Other Nuisances	15	13
Sanitary accommodation	13	14
insufficient	149	158
unsuitable or defective	4	2
not separate for sexes		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	76	76
Total	428	434

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS' LIST			Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists	OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESMOE PREMISES (Section 108)		
	List Received from Employers sending twice in the year				Instances (11)	Notices Served (12)	
	Lists	Contractors	Workmen				
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c. ...	194	194	354	153	—	—	
Furniture and Upholstery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Umbrellas, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Basket Making ...	2	2	2	—	—	—	
	196	196	356	153	—	—	

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	Number
Dressmaking and Millinery ...	354
Bootmaking and Repairing ...	241
Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights ...	44
Tailoring ...	115
Baking ...	113
Cratemaking ...	33
Engraving ...	27
Joiners ...	48
Plumbers ...	55
Others ...	296
Total number of workshops on Register ...	1326

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:— Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (s. 133 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Act (s. 5, 1901)	Notified by H.M. Inspector Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector
Other	38
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):— In use at end of the year	32
	—
	1

Motor Disinfecting Van.

The total mileage recorded during the year was 6,782 with a consumption of 691 gallons of fuel, which is equal to 9.82 miles per gallon.

The average number of miles run per week was 150.71 with an average consumption of petrol of 15.35 gallons. The highest mileage in any week was 209 with a consumption of 22 gallons of spirit.

Horse hire was necessary on 46 days during the year owing to the motor being laid up for minor repairs.

Cleansing Department.

Summary of the Report of Mr. T. Stake, the Cleansing Superintendent, to the Medical Officer of Health.

The early part of 1917 was a very difficult and trying time. Very severe winterly weather was experienced. During the first three months the streets were scarcely ever free from snow.

During the winter months the accumulation of ashpit refuse had largely increased, owing to the inclement weather and difficulties with teams. In April and May special efforts were made to clear the arrears off, and by the end of June all the work was well in hand.

Throughout the year there has been a constant agitation for increases of payment to Carting Contractors, and the Council Meeting held 20th December, 1917, decided to pay for hired team at the rate of seventeen shillings per day.

As the year has progressed the difficulties in regard to obtaining men and materials have steadily increased, but owing to favourable weather conditions the work is better in hand than a year ago.

The quality of men and horses supplied by the hired team owners is not very good.

The weekly removal of house refuse is being made more difficult by the increasing number of defective dustbins.

It is more and more difficult to obtain Rochdale Pans, many in use are worn out.

In March a regular and systematic collection of Waste Paper was started, large quantities have been collected, a great deal of which previously went to the destructors and was burnt.

There has also been collected a good quantity of Pig Food which otherwise would have been wasted. This has been used at the Corporation Piggeries at Hanley.

During the year a number of our men have joined the colours. Great difficulty has been experienced in getting men who would regularly attend to their work to take their places.

The Superintendent expresses his appreciation of the work of the older men of the permanent staff, who attend to their work with great regularity.

Summary of Work.

During the year refuse has been tipped at:—

Cottage Tip, Tunstall.
Broadfields, Goldenhill.
Little Chell Farm.
Fenton Park.

Table showing the number of times of emptying ashpits and cesspit closets during the years 1913—1917.

ASHPITS.

	Tunstall	Burslem	Hanley	Stoke	Fenton	Longton
1913	...	7	8	8	5	6
1914	...	9	8	9	10	8
1915	...	7	6	7	9	6
1916	...	11	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	7	9	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
1917	...	12	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	6

CESSPIT CLOSETS.

	Tunstall	Burslem	Hanley	Stoke	Fenton	Longton
1913	...	11	6	6	12	8
1914	...	12	7	9	11	9
1915	...	12	5	11	9	11
1916	...	12	7	12	7	11
1917	...	12	8	12	9	11

Table showing the amount of refuse removed during the past three years:—

	1915	1916	1917
Loads destroyed	45,828	43,510	35,590
Loads tipped	6,450	6,958	7,540
Total loads of refuse removed	52,378	50,468	43,130
Weight destroyed (tons)	47,047	46,965	45,927
Tubs of Nightsoil removed	8,777	8,888	8,913

The Houses in the Borough are provided with sanitary accommodation as follows:—

	1915	1916	1917
Dustbins weekly collected...	28,630	28,892	28,931
Dustbins collected daily from shops	830	983	985
Ashpits	20,774	20,514	20,503
Cesspit Closets	3,868	3,780	3,720
Rochdale Pans	955	886	880

Hanley Destructor Works.

The weight of refuse destroyed during the year 1917 was 10,859 tons.

The weight of mortar made and sold was 368 tons.

Concrete slabs manufactured, 1,000 square yards.

Concrete slabs sold, 1,864 square yards.

Scrap tin sold, 12 tons.

Crushed clinker sold, 74 tons.

Longton Destructor Works.

Refuse destroyed, 8,887 tons.

Mortar made and sold, 565 tons.

Scrap iron, tin and waste paper sold, 36 tons 3 cwts.

Burslem Refuse Destructor Works.

During the year 7,081 tons of refuse were destroyed.

Light scrap iron and tin sold, 8 tons, 3 cwts, 1 qr.

Stoke Refuse Destructor Works.

Weight of refuse destroyed during the year, 10,958 tons.

Weight of mortar made and sold, 1,202 tons, 13 cwts.

Scrap iron and tin sold, 31 tons, 19 cwts., 2 qrs.

**Summary of the Annual Report of Mr. Wm. Martin,
the Chief Inspector of Meat and Provisions,
to the Medical Officer of Health.**

During the year ending December 31st, 1917, 11,369 visits were paid, compared with 10,361 during the previous year, as follows:—

2,601 visits were paid to slaughter-houses in the Borough,
3,475 to meat shops, English and Foreign,
1,056 to fish shops, retail and wholesale,
767 to markets, and
3,470 to other premises.

Carcases, etc., Examined.

Carcases of home-killed animals examined, 74,981.

Frozen and chilled meat, etc., 5,615.

Horse beef 281 quarters.

Rabbits, English and Foreign, 50,307 couples.

Also a large quantity of fish, tinned goods, fruit and vegetables.

Surrenders of Meat, etc.

75,875 lbs. of beef, pork, mutton, fish, vegetables, etc., was surrendered, the number of surrenders being 357.

In 67 instances the whole bodies of animals were surrendered.

Seizures of Meat, etc.

No seizures took place during the year.

Magistrates' Orders were obtained for the destruction of all meat, etc., surrendered, and all was destroyed at the Refuse Destructor Works belonging to the Corporation.

The quality of meat put on the Markets has not been quite up to the usual standard owing to War conditions.

Prosecutions.

No prosecutions took place during the year.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 67 slaughter-houses in the County Borough (including the Corporation Abattoirs) compared with 80 last year. No slaughter-houses which have not been used during the last 3 years are included in the above.

		Total	Registered	Licensed	Vacant
Longton	...	13	13	0	2
Hanley	...	15	13	2	1
Burslem	...	14	10	4	1
Tunstall and Goldenhill	...	11	9	2	0
Stoke	...	6	5	1	0
Fenton	...	8	8	0	0
		—	—	—	—
		67	58	9	4
		—	—	—	—

Several complaints were received during the year, but none were of a serious nature.

No registered slaughter-houses have changed hands during the year, but one licensed slaughter-house has changed occupiers.

The Public Abattoirs have been more freely used this year than for some years past, and they are now also used for the slaughtering of horses for human food.

Sale of Horse Flesh.

Four shops are now open for the sale of horse flesh, one each at Tunstall, Hanley, Longton and Stoke. Arrangements have been made for the slaughter of horses for human food to be carried out within the Borough. This has greatly facilitated the work of the Inspector.

Knacker's Yards.

The two knackers' yards in the Borough have been visited regularly during the year and found in order on each visit. No complaints have been received in reference to them. During the year one of the knackers' yards was licensed for the slaughter of horses for human food, the knacker's license being cancelled.

Skin Yards.

There are two of these in the Borough, as last year, one at Cross Street, Stoke, and one at Mollart Street, Hanley. They are both in congested areas and at times prove to be nuisances.

Gut Scraping.

There are four premises specially used for this purpose in the Borough. Three are connected with private slaughter-houses and occupied by wholesale butchers, the other is connected with the Public Abattoirs and owned by the Corporation. In each case the premises are kept very clean and on no occasion has there been any cause for complaint on inspection. Most of the butchers who have private slaughter-houses clean the guts from animals slaughtered on their own premises.

Tripe Cleaning.

There are many tripe shops in the Borough, but in most cases the tripe is bought ready cleaned. The greater part of the tripe cleaned in the Borough is dealt with at four establishments. The premises on my various visits have been found clean and in order.

A number of butchers' shops in the area are closed on account of the shortage of labour and scarcity of meat.

Summary of the Report of Mr. J. F. Addison, the Chief Inspector of Canal Boats and Common Lodging Houses, to the Medical Officer of Health.

Canal Boats.

Stoke-on-Trent is a Registration Authority under the Act.

1,024 Canal Boats have been inspected during the year 1917. On the whole the boats are clean, well ventilated and in a good state of repair. The accommodation provided on these 1,024 canal boats was for 3,245 persons, being on an average 3.16 persons per boat. The number in occupation was 2,862 persons (1,405 males, 766 females, and 691 children). Of the 691 children, 304, or 10 per cent. of the number of persons in occupation, were of school age.

There were 32 infringements, viz.:—

Certificates	..	..	..	15
Marking	...	...	...	3
Cleanliness	...	...	...	3
Separation of Sexes	...	...	...	2
Painting	...	...	...	2
Provision of Water Cask...	...	...	7	
				—
				32
				—

Of the 31 notices served, 30 were returned duly signed, stating that the contraventions had been remedied. There are at present 495 Canal Boats on the register, and known to be working. There are no motor propelled boats registered in this district.

During the year three new boats were registered, three were registered on account of structural alterations. The Annual Report has been furnished to the Local Government Board as required.

Common Lodging-Houses.

There are 16 common lodging-houses in the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent, being two less than last year. During the year 776 inspections of common lodging-houses were made—760 by day, and 16 by night. Seventy-nine notices were served for the rectifying of minor offences.

The 16 lodging-houses were registered for the accommodation of 447 persons per night. There were, according to the returns sent in, 79,214 persons accommodated during the year, as compared with 83,967 for 1916.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are now on the register 106 houses. Five hundred and twenty-four inspections have been made during the year. Eighty-one defective premises were found, these have since been attended to.

Summary of the Annual Report of Mr. A. E. Hulme, the Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, and of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, to the Medical Officer of Health.

Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1906.

Two samples of Fertilizers were taken. The Analyst reported that one sample was satisfactory, and that the other was not satisfactory.

Rag Flock Act.

No samples were taken during the year.

Registration of Margarine Dealers.

There were no new premises added to the register during the year, the number of persons registered being 45, and 133 visits were paid. There are no Margarine Factories in the Borough.

Milkshops and Purveyors of Milk.

The following statement shows the number of purveyors of milk registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885:

Number on register at 31st December, 1917 ...	465
Number registered during the year	16
Visits paid	1,832

Cowsheds.

The number of cowsheds on the register is 80. Visits paid, 594. The number of dairies on the register is 77. Visits paid, 118.

One new cowshed has been erected during the year.

Repairs have been carried out in ten sheds to remedy the various defects. All the sheds have been limewashed at least twice during the past year, and in a number of cases oftener.

The approximate number of cows throughout the district is 562, as compared with 523 last year.

Preservatives in Milk, Butter, Margarine, etc.

During the year the Analyst reports that none of the milk samples contained any preservatives.

Thirty-three samples of Butter were purchased containing Boric Acid:—0.13, 0.15, 0.28, 0.06, 0.08, 0.08, 0.24, 0.54, 0.04, 0.04, 0.08, 0.24, 0.20, 0.14, 0.38, 0.31, 0.35, 0.16, 0.11, 0.15, 0.08, 0.18, 0.25, 0.09, 0.10, 0.48, 0.18, 0.21, 0.20, 0.11, 0.17, 0.20, 0.08, 0.20, 0.15, 0.20, 0.15.

Fifty samples of Margarine were purchased containing Boric Acid :—0.17, 0.17, 0.25, 0.13, 0.18, 0.17, 0.30, 0.27, 0.25, 0.12, 0.28, 0.32, 0.17, 0.33, 0.37, 0.41, 0.30, 0.30, 0.20, 0.30, 0.20, 0.15, 0.15, 0.12, 0.27, 0.27, 0.11, 0.38, 0.38, 0.08, 0.11, 0.14, 0.10, 0.04, 0.11, 0.08, 0.08, 0.08, 0.25, 0.15, 0.19, 0.08, 0.16, 0.10, 0.17, 0.29, 0.34, 0.11, 0.27, 0.37.

Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912.

Two samples of Thick Cream contained:—Fat, 28.86, 29.64.

Premises visited, 32.

Ninety samples of Milk and two samples of Cream were examined for the presence of a preservative, but none was found.

Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

Owing to the shortage of Staff no work under the above Act has been carried out during the year.

Statement required by Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, in regard to the Inspection of Dwelling Houses under Section 17 (1) of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.

Number of dwelling houses inspected under and for the purposes of the section, nil.

Number of such dwelling houses which were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation, nil.

Number of such dwelling houses in respect of which representations were made to the Local Authority with a view to making of Closing Orders, nil.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made by the Local Authority, nil.

Number of dwelling houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders, nil.

Number of dwelling houses which, after the making of Closing Orders, were made fit for human habitation, nil.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The number of Samples taken for Analysis by the Public Analyst during the year was 333, and on this page is a tabulated statement showing the number and nature of the articles dealt with, results of the Analysis, and of the proceedings instituted under the Acts.

Total Number of Articles submitted for Analysis	Formal	Informal (All taken by Agents)	Results of Analysis		Observations
			Informal taken by Agents)	Results of Analysis	
5 Baking Powder ..	0	5	Genuine		
72 Butter ..	0	72	"		
5 Bread ..	0	5	"		
1 Bread and Butter ..	0	0	"		
14 Cheese ..	0	14	"		
9 Coffee ..	0	9	"		
1 Coffee ..	0	1	3% Chickory		
1 Coffee ..	1	0	Genuine		
1 Cocoa ..	0	1	"		
5 Cream, preserved ..	0	5	"		
2 Cream ..	0	2	"		
2 Egg Powder Substitute ..	0	2	"		
1 Ground Ginger ..	0	1	"		
1 Honey ..	0	1	"		
3 Jam ..	0	3	"		
6 Lard ..	0	6	"		
73 Margarine ..	0	73	"		
8 Meat, Potted ..	0	8	"		
88 Milk ..	0	88	12% added water	..	
1 Milk ..	1	0	69% Deficient in cream	..	
1 Milk ..	1	0	1.35% Deficient in fat	..	
1 Milk, Dried ..	1	0	Genuine		
1 Milk, Condensed ..	0	1	"		
16 Pepper ..	0	16	"		
5 Sugar ..	0	5	"		
8 Tea ..	0	8	"		
2 Vinegar ..	0	2	"		

**Register of Rainfall in 1917,
kept at The Meir, Longton**

(By the courtesy of Mr. R. C. Frain.)

	Total Depth (inches)	Greatest Rainfall in 24 hours		No. of days on which .01 inch or more fell
		Inches	Date	
January	2.23	0.59	7th	19
February	1.31	0.35	20th	19
March	2.15	0.71	10th	15
April	1.85	0.32	11th	15
May	2.95	0.54	12th	11
June	2.79	0.42	24th	16
July	1.19	0.66	18th	6
August	5.39	0.93	27th	26
September	1.83	0.50	18th	11
October	5.27	1.01	7th	21
November	3.01	0.82	26th	17
December	1.71	0.37	16th	20
Totals	31.68	—	—	187